



THE VOICE OF THE VALLEY

The Newsletter of the Lehigh Valley Gay and Lesbian Task Force / Vol.3, Issue 3

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The Voice of Valley

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WANT TO TRAVEL AROUND THE GAY WORLD IN JUST 30 MINUTES A WEEK?

By **BILL PEACE**

If you tuned into WDIY one recent Sunday, you listened to stories about this year's Gay and Lesbian Pride Celebration in Tokyo; the first gay marriage performed this summer in Vienna, Austria; and American Express Financial Advisors' efforts to recruit openly gay and lesbian personnel, training its staff to focus on same-gender couples investments.

This Way Out, the Lehigh Valley's first locally broadcast gay radio program, airs on WDIY 88.1 FM in Allentown/Bethlehem and 93.9 FM Easton/Phillipsburg Sundays at 5:30 p.m. The international gay and lesbian radio magazine is heard on over 85 radio

stations in eight countries.

The program, an eclectic blend of news – which often gives anti-gay views equal time – folk music, and feature profiles, made its Lehigh Valley debut in June to coincide with Gay History Month.

"I think this is a positive step forward and positive exposure," says Chris Boes, president of the Lehigh Valley Gay and Lesbian Task Force, "because it's apolitical; it's not emotional; it's not about sex; and it's not about negative press."

The public radio station reaches an estimated 500,000 listeners in the Lehigh Valley and has over 2,000 members.

During the program's Newsrap section, gay and lesbian listeners are updated on

important legislative issues like last month's controversial Congressional debates and vote on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) and important gay events like this year's annual convention of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association in Miami.

It's this uncommon voice in a common medium – public radio – that prompted WDIY Program Director Christine Dempsey to introduce *This Way Out* to the valley. Dempsey listened to the program while living in New York a few years ago.

"*This Way Out* is what I like to call ear-opening," said Dempsey. "It's serving a community that's not

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BUSINESS LEADS THE WAY TOWARD EQUAL RIGHTS AT WORK

By **FRANK BARAN**

Even though the Senate refused to pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, progress is being made to protect lesbians and gay men from anti-gay bias in the workplace.

Corporate America is leading the way. A recent study conducted by the Human Rights Campaign found that half of the nation's Fortune 500 companies have adopted policies banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in hiring, firing and promotion.

"In an increasingly competitive global marketplace, the existence of these policies can ensure that the best and the brightest stay with a company regardless of their sexual orientation," the report said. "The atmosphere fostered by such policies increases productivity and profits by

allowing a company to tap the skills and talents of all members of the work force."

The survey found that 251 Fortune 500 companies had non-discrimination policies that cover lesbians and gay men. They include some of the best known names in business, such as Time-Warner, American Express, Coca-Cola, Johnson & Johnson, Walt Disney, Levi Strauss, Quaker Oats, IBM, Xerox, Apple Computer, Colgate Palmolive, Reebok, Sara Lee, Eastman Kodak and Pfizer.

Also on the list are some companies with local headquarters: Air Products & Chemicals Co. and Bethlehem Steel Corp.

Pennsylvania Power & Light Co. is also on the list, but in a separate section, PP&L Resources is includ-

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FOE OF GAY MARRIAGES HAS A GAY SON

A lawmaker who led the fight for legislation that would have barred California from recognizing same-sex marriages performed in other states has a gay son and a gay brother whose death was due to AIDS.

State Assemblyman William J. "Pete" Knight, an archconservative Republican, acknowledged Sept. 10 that his son David is gay. Knight also disclosed that his younger brother was gay and had AIDS.

Knight, a former test pilot who is likely to win re-election Nov. 5, said he had some difficulty accepting the fact that his son, a 35-year-old Baltimore

businessman, was gay. He said the family never talked about the death of his brother to AIDS.

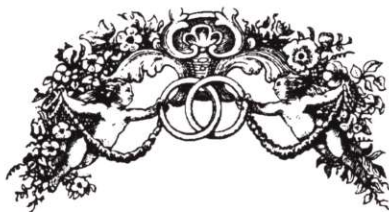
Knight made the disclosures after the Bay Area Times, the San Francisco gay weekly, began inquiring about reports of his family's gay ties. The newspaper

decided not to publish the story because it did not want to "out" Knight's son.

The lawmaker issued a statement acknowledging his son's homosexuality.

Knight insisted there was no conflict between the legislation he sponsored and his acceptance of his gay son. He said the two have agreed to disagree about the subject.

Knight's bill would have blocked California from recognizing same-sex marriages if and when they are performed in Hawaii or other states. The bill died when the Legislature adjourned for the year. ▲



EQUAL RIGHTS *Continued from p. 1*

ed among companies that do not have a non-discrimination policy.

Non-discrimination policies are in force in a number of Fortune 500 that have a presence in the region. These companies include AT&T, Bell Atlantic, Cigna, Conrail, Crown Cork & Seal, Home Depot, Mellon Bank, Merck & Co., Office Depot, PECO Energy, Prudential Insurance, Revco Drug Stores, Sears, Tandy, Toys R Us, Unisys, Woolworth and Wyomissing-based VF Corp.

The survey found that not all major companies embrace diversity in the workplace. Ninety-one of the Fortune 500 companies do not have non-discrimination policies covering lesbians and gay men. One of them is local: Bethlehem-based Union Pacific Co. Others in the region include Federal Express, and Rohm and Haas.

Among the best-known business names that don't offer protection are Chrysler, Nike, Pennzoil, PPG Industries, the Reader's Digest Association and State Farm.

The remaining 158 Fortune 500 companies did not respond to the HRC's survey. These include Corestates Financial, Rite Aid, Staples, Sun Co., U.S. Healthcare and Wal-Mart.

The reason ENDA is needed, the HRC said, is that not all employers are progressive. Although Fortune 500 companies are economic powerhouses, smaller companies account for the huge proportion of the nation's workforce. Many of them haven't taken the time to consider the importance of non-discrimination policies for their lesbian and gay workers.

Governments have been slower to adopt non-discrimination policies. Only nine states (California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin) and the District of Columbia have prohibited discrimination in the workplace based on sexual orientation.

In Pennsylvania, employers are free by law to fire or refuse to hire anyone whom they perceive to be gay. The only exceptions are a handful of cities (Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh and York) that have adopted non-discrimination ordinances.

Northampton County prohibits employment discrimination based on sexual orientation, but that applies only to workers in county government and not companies doing business in the

county.

Although many employers are willing to provide equal employment to lesbians and gay men, relatively few offer domestic partner benefits. The HRC identified 313 employers nationwide who give gay and lesbian workers the same benefits as their married heterosexual employees get. They include Time-Warner, Levi Strauss, Hewlett-Packard, Apple Computer, Microsoft, Ben & Jerry's, Xerox and Walt Disney Co. A few have local or regional ties: the American Red Cross, Barnes & Noble, Charles Schwab & Co. and the University of Pennsylvania.

Why the resistance to domestic partner benefits? Many companies fear having to pay for costly diseases such as AIDS.

Hewitt Associates, a nationally recognized employee benefits consulting firm, found the apprehensions are unfounded. In a 1994 study, the consultants found that real-world experience showed no statistically significant increase in costs. Among the reasons: the lesbian and gay workers who feel confident enough in enrolling their partners in the company's health-benefits plan tend to be younger, and thus healthier. Many of the employees' partners have their own benefits plans. Finally, the pregnancy rates among gay employees are extremely low.

On average, 2 to 3 percent of all employees elect domestic partner coverage from their employers when given the chance, Hewitt Associates said.

The consultants cited government data showing the average medical cost of HIV treatment in 1994 was \$119,000 per patient. By comparison, the cost of treating cancer can run \$30,000 to \$100,000, and the cost of premature infant care ranges from \$50,000 to \$1 million.

The HRC report also found that many employers are sanctioning gay and lesbian employee resource and support groups. Some are social organizations; others are business-related, enabling gay workers to share their concerns and ideas with top management.

Among the employers that have such employee groups are Aetna Life and Casualty, the American Red Cross, the AFL-CIO, AT&T, Bell Atlantic and the U.S. government.

A complete copy of the Human Rights Campaign report, "The State of the Workplace for Gay and Lesbian Americans," is available on the HRC's website. The address is <http://www.hrcusa.org>. ▲

necessarily being heard. It also makes heterosexuals more aware of the gay and lesbian community.

"We believe this program meets our mission statement's goals and that's to serve a diverse community," she said.

WDIY already is reaching out to other cultural and ethnic minority groups in the Lehigh Valley through Latino USA, Kol Haemek, The Arabic Show, and Music from India.

But, like most controversial programs, the program was not universally embraced.

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In an attempt to prove to WDIY's board of directors the program's

positive impact, Boes, armed with statistics about the valley's gay population, lobbied for the program before the station's board of directors.

"This program is not perpetuating or advocating a certain lifestyle," said Boes, who noticed moments before her presentation that PRIDE had placed an advertisement in WDIY's program guide. "So I knew they didn't have a problem accepting money from the gay community," she said.

"It's important for us to see and hear about ourselves. More critically, mainstream Lehigh Valley hears issues surrounding our lives. Issue that diffuse the notion we are so different from them," she said.

How well will *This Way Out* do?

It will stay where it is in the foreseeable future, but it would be extremely helpful for the gay and lesbian com-

munity to show their support for the program, Dempsey said. The best way for the station to measure a successful program, she said, is when people become members of the station and support their favorite programs.

Show your support for *This Way Out* by making a financial pledge during the station's on-air membership drive Sunday, Oct. 20 at 758-8810. Call in while the program is airing beginning at 5:30 p.m. Or call 758-8810 anytime between Friday, Oct. 18 and Saturday, Oct. 26 and tell the operator you want your pledge to count for *This Way Out*.

You are also encouraged to write to WDIY and *This Way Out* to show your support. Write to: WDIY, 301 Broadway, Bethlehem, PA 18015, and *This Way Out*, PO Box 38327, Los Angeles, CA 90038. *This Way Out* is also looking for good story ideas. ▲

NGLTF APPLAUDS DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

AT SAME TIME, THERE IS "ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT"

The following is a press release from the NGLTF Washington, D.C., August 27, 1996...

Citing strong language on AIDS, support for ending discrimination against gay men and lesbians, and opposition to the scapegoating of immigrants, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has praised the proposed 1996 Democratic National Platform.

At the same time, NGLTF criticized the serious shortcomings of the platform, including its exclusion of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender relationships and families, failure to address the continued witch hunts of gay people in the military, and attacks on welfare recipients.

"We applaud the Democratic platform's language of inclusivity for gay and lesbian people and people with AIDS," said Melinda Paras, NGLTF executive director. "Especially when you compare it to the GOP platform, which gave all of 16 words

to AIDS and opposed the 'distortion' of civil rights laws to include sexual orientation."

The Good News

NGLTF cited several positive planks of the platform. These include:

• **Health and AIDS:** The platform contains strong and explicit support for AIDS research, prevention and treatment, and a commitment to "finding a cure for AIDS, combating HIV-related discrimination, supporting HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS Act) funding...and working to ensure that all Americans living with AIDS have access to new and potentially lifesaving drugs." Also of importance to people with HIV and AIDS is the strong stand on holding "the line against Republicans' mean-spirited Medicare and Medicaid cuts...."

The GOP platform's statement on AIDS, while positive, was seriously lacking in

terms of support of funding for research and care. The GOP language on AIDS in its entirety is: "We remain committed to, and place a high priority on, finding a cure for HIV disease." The next sentence of the GOP platform went on to call for "increased funding for research targeted at conditions that touch the families of most Americans, like Alzheimer's, breast cancer, prostate cancer and diabetes." Paras questioned the GOP's "commitment" to finding a cure for HIV when the Republican's Congressional record emphasizes cuts in funding and punitive AIDS laws.

• **Discrimination and Inclusion:** NGLTF saluted the platform's inclusion of sexual orientation in a list of those needing protection against discrimination. "We continue to lead the fight to end discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religion, age, ethnicity, disability, and

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DEMOCRATS *Continued from p.3*

sexual orientation," stated the platform. The document also calls for the vigorous enforcement of the Americans with Disability Act, which includes PWAs.

The platform goes further by supporting federal protections against discrimination for gay and lesbian people and the inclusion of gay people in society. It states, "We support continued efforts, like the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, to end discrimination against gay men and lesbians and further their full inclusion in the life of the nation."

The GOP platform says, "...we oppose discrimination based on sex, race, age, creed, or national origin, and will vigorously enforce anti-discrimination statutes. We reject the distortion of those laws to cover sexual preference...."

NGLTF also praised the platform's appeal to stop the scapegoating of immigrants and opposition to ending affirmative action. "We deplore those who blame immigrants for economic and social problems," stated the platform. While calling for an end to illegal immigration, the platform urges all Americans "to avoid the temptation to use this issue to divide people..." and "...as a pretext for discrimination." The platform opposes barring children of "illegal immigrants" from schools, and that such efforts are "mean spirited and short-sighted." NGLTF agreed with the platform in "oppos[ing] Sen. Dole's promise to end affirmative action."

The Bad News

The Task Force strongly criticized the platform's lack of attention to two critical issues affecting gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Americans: our families and relationships, and our right to serve our country in the military. NGLTF also objected to language on welfare reform.

• **Same-Gender Marriage and Families:** "There is no recognition in the platform of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender families, including our loving relationships, and the importance of ending discrimination against our families," said NGLTF's Melinda Paras. "Same-gender marriage and our right to keep or adopt children all are key issues for us. The platform spends considerable space talking about strong heterosexual families, but ignores the loving, caring, but vulnerable families we as gay people foster."

The GOP platform is openly hostile to gay families, in particular on same-gender marriages. It "endorse[s] the Defense of Marriage Act to prevent states from being forced to recognize same-sex unions." President Clinton has also opposed same-gender marriage and said he will sign DOMA if passed.

• **Gays in the Military:** Paras also criticized the lack of mention in the platform of the continued witch hunts by the U.S. military of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender service members. Paras commended the Administration's strong fight against Rep. Bob Dornan's attempt to oust HIV-positive service members. At the same time she said the lack of inclusion of gays and lesbians in the military was an insult to their brave and courageous contributions, despite the "don't ask, don't tell" policy – which many experts say has actually resulted

in more hardships for gays in the armed forces.

While the Democratic platform is silent on gays in the military, the GOP platform states, "We oppose Bill Clinton's assault on the culture and traditions of the Armed Forces, especially his attempt to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military. We affirm that homosexuality is incompatible with military service."

• **Welfare Reform:** While the Task Force agrees with the importance of providing job opportunities as stated in the platform, it is critical of both the GOP and Democratic platforms and attacks on the poor. "We are very concerned that welfare families will be left with no safety net of support as they are taken off of welfare," said Paras. "The President and both platforms all approach this issue by cutting off assistance first and then hoping recipients get jobs so they can buy health care and other critical needs."

"Ultimately, both the Democratic and GOP platforms should be rated on the basis that they reflect the actual records of the Clinton Administration and of the Gingrich-Dole Republican Congress," concluded Paras. "Despite attempts by the Republicans to downplay the importance of their platform, it remains the foundation of the party's ideology and was clearly dominated by the Hard Right in San Diego. At the same time, the Democratic platform, while clearly more positive, has much room for improvement." ▲



MEETINGS

P-FLAG

PFLAG will be holding their monthly meeting on the second Sunday of the month, 3:30 -5:00 p.m. in room 1876 Thompkins College Center Building, Cedar Crest College, Allentown, PA. For information call (215)368-2473.

Your Turf.

A support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth ages 16 to 22 meets on Friday evenings at 7p.m. Call 439-8755 for location of meeting. The group is sponsored by the Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley.

Gay Men of the Lehigh Valley

Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 424 Center Street, Bethlehem, on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. While the focus is on gay men's issues, everyone is welcome to attend meetings. For information or directions, please call (610)439-8755.

EVENTS

PRIDE of the Lehigh Valley is organizing a trip to Washington, D.C., Saturday, Oct. 12 to visit the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, which will be assembled in its entirety – about 40,000 panels on display – in the nation's capital for the last time.

The cost of the bus trip is \$35 per person, and the bus will leave the Trans Bridge Bus Terminal at 2012 Industrial Drive in Bethlehem at 7 a.m. Oct. 12 and return at approximately 1 a.m. Oct. 13. There is plenty of parking at Trans-Bridge Bus terminal and the bus will be stopping for breakfast, which is not included in the \$35.

After the four-day event, sections of the large quilt will continue to be displayed at various locations.

Anyone interested in the bus trip should contact PRIDE at 770-6200.

TAKING OUR SHOW OUT ON THE ROAD

By CHRIS BOES

How many times have you said to yourself "I don't want to change the world, I only want to be able to live in it"? For decades now, gays and lesbians have been saying just that. All we want to do is live in peace. Now there's the rub. It is not yet possible for us to live in "peace" in every part of this country; and until it is, some of us must continue to educate communities about that fact. And that means taking our show on the road, identifying ourselves as lesbians and gay men, explaining ourselves, exposing ourselves, and fielding the same questions over and over.

In a biting honest essay entitled "Talking AIDS to death," the late Randy Shilt's laments that each time he would appear in public to discuss the AIDS epidemic, it was as though no one had ever discussed it before. He shares with his readers his frustration, even going so far as to joke about the ways in which this deadly disease is spread. In answer to the most often asked question: "Can you get AIDS from a mosquito?" he admits he quipped: "Only if you have unprotected sex with it." To one who has never been in the position of answering such questions this is hardly an appropriate answer. But to me, it highlights the frustration we feel every time we try to reduce prejudice by educating the public about who we are. How different really is my reply to the query: What do you *people* do at meetings?" I have been known to answer: "Why we have wild, unbridled sex. What do you do at yours?"

Sometimes humor is the best way to cut through the tension a workshop entitled

"How Homophobia Hurts Everyone" can create. I use humor whenever possible. And it was probably humor that got me through in April, when I addressed a group of mental health workers on "Homophobia in the Workplace" at Step-by-Step, a Bethlehem based Mental Health Facility. I had been invited as part of their diversity training, and didn't know what to expect. What I found as a group of about fifty employees, many of whom volunteered to attend, who were eager to understand what it is like to be a lesbian or gay man. Their questions were important, their sincerity apparent, and the afternoon flew by. By the

end of the session (which ran way overtime at the attendees request) I felt as though I had really made a difference.

It is imperative that we continue to educate our communities about us. No, we are not thrilled that we have to go on display when heterosexuals don't. We should not have to justify our lives or our loves, when they don't have to. But if we don't, we risk allowing ignorance to reign — and experience has taught us that "phobia" is only a small step from hate. We must do everything we can to stem the tide of hate directed at us. Our lives depend on it. ▲

BINGO BINGO BINGO

Enjoy the company of old and new friends during bingo games on the third Sunday of the month at Diamonz from 3 to 5 p.m.

The next bingo is Sunday, October 20.

The games are \$1 for a regular card, which entitles you to compete for cash;

\$2 for a special card, for products and services donated by gay or gay-friendly businesses.



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NGLTF RESPONSE TO PASSAGE OF DOMA AND DEFEAT OF ENDA

The following is a statement issued by Melinda Paras, executive director, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), on September 10, 1996.

Today is a historic moment for lesbian and gay people, despite the outcome of the Senate votes.

In spite of the intolerance of many Republican and Democrat lawmakers, we know we have finally broken the legislative log-jam that has blocked Congress from even discussing our civil rights in a serious manner. We know we will have to lose a few votes before we win the battle. We lost ENDA by only two votes. We know that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender equal rights have taken center stage in American politics, and we can never go back to the days of silence.

We denounce the passage of DOMA. This law is a gratuitous attack on gay and lesbian people. The law is unnecessary, discriminatory and probably unconstitutional. Gay and lesbian people pay taxes and contribute proudly to this country, but we are denied the same rights and responsibilities heterosexual couples receive.

DOMA is bogus. It neither strengthens American families nor marriages between men and women. Instead, it draws a circle around gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender people and proclaims that our families do not deserve recognition and our loving relationships are indecent. By passing this legislation, the Senate and House have caved in to the emotional arguments promoted by Right-wing extremists, for whom DOMA stands as the centerpiece of their 1996 political agenda. For they have a narrow definition of "family" that acts as a weapon to divide society into good and bad people, the moral and immoral.

We call on President Clinton to change his mind about same-gender marriage and veto this legislation. We demand that the President remember his campaign promise to gay and lesbian Americans in 1992, when he said that he has dream for America and gay and lesbian people are part of it. DOMA is a nightmare of injustice, not a dream for America. Mr. President: in this election year, as you campaign for our votes and our trust, do not sign this legislation. Do not capitulate to the rhetoric of the far Right. Stand for tolerance and inclusivity, not prejudice and hatred.

We salute those courageous 14 senators who voted against DOMA, and the 49 who voted for ENDA. We fondly remember the words, in particular, of Sen. Moseley-Braun, who exclaimed, "Gay and lesbian Americans...do not yet fully enjoy the 'equal protection of the laws' promised every American by the 14th Amendment. That is why I oppose the so-called Defense of Marriage Act. This issue is not the federal government's business. This bill is misguided and wrongheaded. The

federal government's only legitimate role in this area is to protect individual liberty and choice, not to restrict it. DOMA moved through the House faster than any part of the 'Contract on America.' DOMA is all about the politics of fear and division."

And the words of Sen. Robb, who said, "As one who represents a traditionally conservative state [Virginia]...many of my friends and supporters have urged me to sit this one out because of the political fallout, but I can't do that. I feel very strongly that this legislation is fundamentally wrong. Despite its name, the [act] does not defend marriage against some imminent, crippling threat. Although we have made huge strides in the struggle against discrimination based on gender, race and religion, it is more difficult to see beyond our differences regarding sexual orientation. The fact that our hearts don't all speak in the same way is not cause for justification to discriminate."

The narrow defeat of ENDA will not stop us in our struggle to end discrimination in the workplace. Gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Americans deserve the same right as all citizens to earn a living and do their jobs free of bigotry. A majority of Americans, up to 75 percent, support an end to job discrimination based on sexual orientation. The Senate is out of touch with American opinion on this subject.

The passage of DOMA and the defeat of ENDA may be roadblocks on our journey to equality, but they will not turn us back. Unfortunately, the majority of the Senate was not willing to stand up for the principles for which this country stands: tolerance, compassion and fairness. Gay and lesbian loving relationships and families are here to stay because they speak to our aspirations of justice and reflect the real circumstances of our lives. Passage of DOMA will not change this. We will not stand by silently. We will not be used as scapegoats. We will continue to fight for ourselves, our loving partners, our families and our equality. ▲

TASK FORCE DOES...

PRIDE Fest '96

Hats off to PRIDE for another spectacular event filled with fabulous entertainment, vendors, and refreshments. Also represented at PRIDE Fest were numerous organizations of the Lehigh Valley including the L.V.G.L.T.F. We would again like to thank all the gay-friendly firms for their contributions to our membership drawing. This annual event always proves to be a great way to show the Lehigh Valley what PRIDE is all about.

GAY DAY at DORNEY

"Did you hear? There were 25 bus loads of gays & lesbians at Dorney!" That was a statement made by a Dorney Park employee after last year's event. **Not a true statement.** "I'm not going to Gay Day. Everyone will know that I'm gay if I go." That statement was overheard at a local bar by a gay man after viewing the Gay Day poster. **Not a true statement.**

We only wish that both were true. To have over 1,000 gays & lesbians arrive in buses and be the only ones at Dorney, would certainly be a dream come true for the Task Force. With this not being the case, we continued to struggle this year with participation.

Is that going to stop us? No way! Next year look for a new and improved approach to this event.

FACT SUMMER GAMES

Once again FACT delivered a great time to the community at the Summer Games held at Rainbow Mountain. There were plenty of ways to occupy your time during this fund raising affair. The games included a drag relay race, a condom toss, and other fun filled events. The games concluded after a tug of war contest, with the trophy going home with Candina's team. The Task Force team faced some strong competition but held their ground and made a very respectable finish.

In addition to the fun generated by the above games, there was plenty of live music, refreshments, games, and vendors. A moment of silence was observed mid-afternoon with a solo of Amazing Grace rendered by a bag pipe to remind all of us what had brought us together that day. Congratulations to FACT for providing a wonderful day for a much needed cause. Our special thanks to the members of our team and to our volunteer coordinator, Linda Mich, for all their superior efforts.

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JOIN US...

... in making the Lehigh Valley a better and safer place to live. You can help by becoming a member of the Task Force.



Name _____

Street address _____

City, _____

State, _____ Zip _____

Municipality (city, borough, township) _____

Telephone _____

☐ **\$15 Basic membership**
Benefits: mailing list, referral database, volunteer opportunities, lesbian and gay community information, newsletter, a vote at meetings

☐ **\$10 Student or senior member**
Benefits: same as above. However, students under 18 do not vote.

☐ **\$25 Family Membership**
Benefits: Same as basic membership. This category is for domestic partners and their children living in the same household. Each person gets 1 vote for a maximum of 2 votes per family. Children under 18 do not vote.

☐ **\$30 Organizational member**
Benefits: Newsletter, referral database, free listing in newsletter. No vote.

☐ **Contributor**
Help the Task Force pay for mailings and other start-up expenses. Your donations would be very much appreciated.

Detach and mail to: LVGLTF, P.O. Box 20253, Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-0253

Have you renewed your membership?

The Task Force needs your support. Please renew your membership by filling out the form above.

AFFORDABLE MERCHANTS

Antiques Sales & Refinishing
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Merrero—Independent Dist.

TEL: 610-867-5015

FAX: 610-867-0474

Member Organizations of LVGLTF

GLBSV
Box 68 University Center ESU
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
717-424-3748

Grace Covenant Fellowship Church
247 North 10th st.
Allentown, PA 18102
610-740-0247

NCC Gay and Lesbian Student Union
3835 Greenpond rd.
Bethlehem, PA 18017
610-861-5324

Do you feel you've been discriminated against?



For a copy of the incident report form, please call the Task Force Hot Line at **(610) 868-3388.**

Get the Word Out!

Do you want to reach the Lehigh Valley gay community with your product or service? An advertisement in The Voice of the Valley is the way to go.

The Task Force newsletter is distributed to members and patrons of gay-friendly establishments in Lehigh and Northampton counties. Total circulation is 500.

ADVERTISING RATES

Full page	\$150
Half page	\$75
Quarter page	\$50
Business card	\$25

10% discount for full year

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

January issue	December 7
April issue	March 7

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!

Have you moved? Let us know. The Membership Committee needs to know your current address so we can be sure to send you the Voice of the Valley and other announcements. Use this handy form:

NAME _____

YOUR OLD ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

YOUR NEW ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

MUNICIPALITY _____

TELEPHONE _____

Detach and mail to: LVGLTF, P.O. Box 20253, Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-0253